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CONVENTION RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES

of 28 July 1951

Signatures, Accessions and Ratifications to the Convention
Declarations and Reservations made by Parties to the Convention

GE.64-592

Parties to the Convention	Date of Signature	Date of ratification or accession or declaration
Algeria	-	21 February 1963
Argentina	-	15 November 1961
Australia	-	22 January 1954
Austria	28 July 1951	1 November 1954
Belgium	28 July 1951	22 July 1953
Burundi	-	16 July 1963
Brazil	15 July 1952	16 November 1960
Cameroon	-	23 October 1961
Central African Republic	-	4 September 1962
Colombia	28 July 1951	10 October 1961
Congo (Brazzaville)	-	15 October 1962
Cyprus	-	16 May 1963
Dahomey	-	4 April 1962
Denmark	28 July 1951	4 December 1952
Ecuador	-	17 August 1955
Federal Republic of Germany	19 November 1951	1 December 1953
France	11 September 1952	23 June 1954
Ghana	-	18 March 1963
Greece	10 April 1952	5 April 1960
Holy See	21 May 1952	15 March 1956
Iceland	-	30 November 1955
Ireland	-	29 November 1956
Israel	1 August 1951	1 October 1954
Italy	23 July 1952	15 November 1954
Ivory Coast	-	8 December 1961
Liechtenstein	28 July 1951	8 March 1957
Luxembourg	28 July 1951	23 July 1953
Monaco	-	18 May 1954
Morocco	-	7 November 1956
Netherlands	28 July 1951	3 May 1956
New Zealand	-	30 June 1960
Niger	-	25 August 1961

Parties to the Convention	Date of Signature	Date of ratification or accession or declaration
Norway	28 July 1951	23 March 1953 -
Portugal	-	22 December 1960 -
Senegal	-	2 May 1963 -
Sweden	28 July 1951	26 October 1954 -
Switzerland	28 July 1951	21 January 1955 -
Togo	-	27 February 1962 -
Turkey	24 August 1951	30 March 1962 -
Tunisia	-	24 October 1957 -
United Kingdom	28 July 1951	11 March 1954 -
Yugoslavia	28 July 1951	15 December 1959 -

Declarations made by Governments Parties to the Convention in accordance with Article 1 B. (1) of the Convention

Article 1 B.(1) reads:

"For the purposes of this Convention, the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in Article 1, Section A, shall be understood to mean either:

(a) 'Events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951', or

(b) 'Events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951'

and each Contracting State shall make a declaration at the time of signature, ratification or accession, specifying which of these meanings it applies for the purpose of its obligations under this Convention."

States which have adopted alternative (a): "Events occuring in Europe"	States which have adopted alternative (b): "Events occurring in Europe or elsewhere"
Argentina	Algeria
Australia	Austria
Brazil	Belgium
Congo (Brazzaville)	Cameroon (Declaration of 29 December 1961)
Dahomey	Central African Republic (Declaration of 15 October 1962)
Ecuador	Colombia
France	Cyprus
Italy	Denmark

Note: The Convention entered into force on 22 April 1954.

States which have adopted (contd.) alternative (a):

"Events occurring in Europe"

Ivory Coast
Luxembourg
Monaco
Niger
Portugal
Senegal
Turkey

States which have adopted (contd.) alternative (b):

"Events occurring in Europe or elsewhere"

Federal Republic of Germany
Ghana
Greece
Holy See (Declaration of 17 November 1961)
Iceland
Ireland
Israel
Liechtenstein
Morocco
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Sweden
Switzerland
Togo (Declaration of 23 October 1962)
Tunisia
United Kingdom
Yugoslavia

The Government of Burundi has not yet made a declaration in accordance with Article 1 B (1).

Declarations and Reservations made by Governments Parties* to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 28 July 1951

ALGERIA

Declaration

By a communication received on 21 February 1963, the Government of Algeria notified the Secretary-General that it considers itself bound by the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, done at Geneva on 28 July 1951, the application of which had been extended to its territory before the attainment of independence.

Furthermore, the Government of Algeria notified the Secretary-General, pursuant to Section B (2) of article 1 of the above-mentioned Convention, that it has extended its obligations under this Convention by adopting alternative (b) of Section B (1) of that article, that is to say "events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951".

ARGENTINA

Declaration

"In accordance with Section B.(1) of article 1, the words 'Events occurring before 1 January 1951' in article 1, Section A shall be understood to mean 'Events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951'."

AUSTRALIA

Declaration

"In accordance with Article 1, Section B.(1), the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia declares that, for the purpose of its obligations under this Convention, the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in Article 1, Section A, shall be understood to mean 'events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951'."

[Application of the Convention has been extended to Norfolk Island, Papua, New Guinea and Nauru].

Reservations

Articles 17, 18, 19 and 26

"The Government of the Commonwealth of Australia understands that none of the obligations with regard to refugees stipulated in Articles 17, 18, 19 and 26 of the Convention precludes:

(a) the imposition of conditions upon which a refugee may enter the Commonwealth of Australia or any of its Territories where the entry is made for a specific purpose: or

(b) the making of arrangements with a refugee under which he is required to undertake employment under the direction of the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia for a specified period after his entry into the Commonwealth of Australia or any of its Territories."

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* These declarations and reservations were either made upon ratification or accession, or upon signature and confirmed upon ratification.

Where the original text was not in English the texts given in the present bulletin are based on translations by the United Nations Secretariat.

Article 28

"The Government of the Commonwealth of Australia makes a reservation with respect to the provisions contained in paragraph 1 of Article 28 of the Convention and does not accept the obligations stipulated in this paragraph but is prepared to recognize travel documents issued by other Contracting States pursuant to this Article."

Article 32

"The Government of the Commonwealth of Australia makes a reservation with respect to the provisions contained in Article 32 of the Convention and does not accept the obligations stipulated in this Article."

AUSTRIA

Declaration

The Government of Austria ratified the Convention on the understanding that, for the purpose of its obligations under the present Convention, the Republic of Austria considers itself bound by alternative (b) of article 1.B (1).

Reservations

"(a) Subject to the reservation that the Republic of Austria regards the provisions of article 17, paragraphs 1 and 2 (excepting, however, the phrase "who was already exempt from them at the date of entry into force of this Convention for the Contracting State concerned, or ..." in the latter paragraph) not as a binding obligation, but merely as a recommendation.

(b) Subject to the reservation that the provisions of article 22, paragraph 1, shall not be applicable to the establishment and maintenance of private elementary schools, that the "public relief and assistance" referred to in article 23 shall be interpreted solely in the sense of allocations from public welfare funds (Armenversorgung), and that the "documents or certifications" referred to in article 25, paragraphs 2 and 3, shall be construed to mean the identity certificates provided for in the Convention of 30 June 1928 relating to refugees."

BELGIUM

Declaration

"The words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951', in article 1, Section A of the Convention, should, from the point of view of the obligations assumed by the Belgian Government in virtue of the Convention, be understood to mean 'events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951'."

Reservations

"1. In all cases where the Convention grants to refugees the most favourable treatment accorded to nationals of a foreign country, this provision shall not be interpreted by the Belgian Government as necessarily involving the régime accorded to nationals of countries with which Belgium has concluded regional customs, economic or political agreements.

2. Article 15 of the Convention shall not be applicable in Belgium; refugees lawfully staying in Belgian territory will enjoy the same treatment, as regards the right of association, as that accorded to aliens in general."

BRAZIL

Declaration

The Government of Brazil has declared that for the purpose of its obligations under the Convention the words "events occurring before 1 January 1951" in Article 1 Section A.(2) shall be understood to mean "events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951".

Reservations

The Government of Brazil excludes Articles 15 and 17 from its application of the Convention.

BURUNDI

By a letter dated 16 July 1963, the Government of Burundi informed the Secretary-General that it accedes to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees as from that date.

CAMEROON

Declaration

On 23 October 1961 the Government of Cameroon notified the Secretary-General that it considers itself bound by the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, done at Geneva on 28 July 1951, the application of which had been extended to its territory before the attainment of independence.

By a communication received on 29 December 1961 the Government of Cameroon notified the Secretary-General, pursuant to Section B.(2) of article 1 of the Convention, that it has extended its obligations under this Convention by adopting alternative (b) of Section B.(1) of that article, that is to say, "events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951".

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Declaration

By a communication received on 4 September 1962, the Government of the Central African Republic notified the Secretary-General that it considers itself bound by the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, done at Geneva on 28 July 1951, the application of which had been extended to its territory before the attainment of independence.

By a further communication received on 15 October 1962, the Government of the Central African Republic notified the Secretary-General, pursuant to Section B.(2) of article 1 of the Convention, that it has extended its obligations under this Convention by adopting alternative (b) of Section B.(1) of that article, that is to say, "events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951".

COLOMBIA

Declaration

The instrument of ratification contains a declaration made in accordance with Section B.(1) of article 1 that the words "events occurring before 1 January 1951" in article 1, Section A shall be understood to mean "events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951".

CONGO (Brazzaville)

Declaration

By a communication received on 15 October 1962, the Government of the Congo (Brazzaville) notified the Secretary-General that it considers itself bound by the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, done at Geneva on 28 July 1951, the application of which had been extended to its territory before the attainment of independence.

CYPRUS

Declaration

By a communication received on 16 May 1963, the Government of Cyprus notified the Secretary-General that it considers itself bound by the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, done at Geneva on 28 July 1951, the application of which had been extended to its territory before the attainment of independence.

DAHOMEY

Declaration

By a communication received on 4 April 1962 the Government of Dahomey notified the Secretary-General that it considers itself bound by the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, done at Geneva on 28 July 1951, the application of which had been extended to its territory before the attainment of independence.

DENMARK

Declaration

The Government of Denmark declared that for the purpose of its obligations under the Convention, the words "events occurring before 1 January 1951" in Article 1 Section A, shall be understood as referring to "events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951".

Reservations

The Government of Denmark made the following reservations:

Denmark is not bound by articles 14 and 17 or by article 24, paragraph 3;

The provisions of article 24, paragraph 1, under which refugees are in certain cases placed on the same footing as nationals, shall not oblige Denmark to grant refugees in every case exactly the same remuneration as that provided by law for nationals, but only to grant them what is required for their support;

Paragraph 2 of the same article shall be binding upon Denmark only if the beneficiary is a national of a State which grants Danish nationals the same treatment as its own nationals from the point of view of the benefits provided for in its relevant legislation.

At the same time the Government of Denmark declared that the provisions of the Convention, subject to the above mentioned reservations, were also applicable to Greenland.

By a communication received on 23 August 1962, the Government of Denmark informed the Secretary-General that it had decided to withdraw as from 1 October 1961 the reservation to Article 14 made on ratification of the Convention to the effect that Denmark is not bound by the said Article 14.

ECUADOR

Declaration

In accordance with Article 1, Section B.(1) of the Convention, the Government of Ecuador declared that, for the purposes of the Convention, the words "events occurring before 1 January 1951" in Section A, should be understood to mean "events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951".

With respect to article 1, relating to the definition of the term "refugee", the Government of Ecuador declares that its accession to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees does not imply its acceptance of the Conventions which have not been expressly signed and ratified by Ecuador.

With respect to article 15, Ecuador further declares that its acceptance of the provisions contained therein shall be limited in so far as those provisions are in conflict with the constitutional and statutory provisions in force prohibiting aliens, and consequently refugees, from being members of political bodies.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Declaration

"In signing this Convention, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany declares that for the purpose of its obligations thereunder the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in Article 1, Section A, shall be understood as referring to events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951."

On 15 December 1955, the Permanent Observer of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations notified the Secretary-General that:

"The Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of July 28, 1951, also applies to Land Berlin, as of the date on which the Convention entered into force for the Federal Republic of Germany."

FRANCE

Declarations

"The words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in article 1, Section A(2), shall be understood to mean 'events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951'."

Upon ratification the Government of the Republic of France declared, with reference to article 40 of the Convention, that the latter applies to all territories for the international relations of which France is responsible, and at the same time made the following interpretative declarations:

(a) It considers that article 29, paragraph 2, does not prevent the application in French territory of the provisions of the Act of 7 May 1934 authorizing the levying of the Nansen tax for the support of refugee welfare, resettlement and relief work.

(b) Article 17 in no way prevents the application of the laws and regulations establishing the proportion of alien workers that employers are authorized to employ in France or affects the obligations of such employers in connexion with the employment of alien workers.

GHANA

Declaration

The instrument of accession deposited with the Secretary-General by the Government of Ghana contains a declaration made in accordance with Section B.(1) of article 1 that the words "events occurring before 1 January 1951" in article 1, Section A, shall be understood to mean "events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951".

GREECE

Declaration

The representative of Greece submitted the following statement:

"With reference to paragraph B 1 of Article 1 of this Convention, I have been instructed to state that the Royal Greek Government understands the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951', contained in Article 1 Section A to mean: 'events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951'."

Reservations

"1. In cases or circumstances which, in its opinion would justify exceptional procedure for reasons of national security or public order, the Royal Hellenic Government reserves the right to derogate from the obligations imposed by the provisions of Articles 8, 26, 28, 31 and 32.

2. In the opinion of the Royal Hellenic Government the provisions of Articles 11, 24, para.(3) and 34 constitute recommendations and not juridical obligations.

3. It is understood that the provisions of Article 13 shall not be deemed to refer to rights or claims on movable or immovable property owned by such persons prior to their entry into Greece as refugees.

4. As far as wage-earning employment under Art. 17 is concerned, the Royal Hellenic Government shall not accord to the refugees less rights than those accorded generally to nationals of foreign countries.

5. Public relief accorded under Article 23 shall be deemed to be the relief accorded on the basis of general laws and regulations of the country. Exceptional measures which the Royal Hellenic Government has taken or shall deem necessary to take as a result of special circumstances in favour of a particular group of Greek nations shall not automatically extend to persons falling under the provisions of the present Convention.

6. The Royal Hellenic Government does not accept and does not consider as valid, as far as Greece is concerned, the second paragraph of the reservation made by the Government of Turkey at the time of the signature of the present Convention".

HOLY SEE

Declaration

Upon ratification, the Secretariat of State of the Holy See notified the Secretary-General as follows:

"For the purpose of its obligations under this Convention, the words "events occurring before 1 January 1951" in Article 1, Section A, paragraph 2, will be understood as referring to events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951".

By a communication received on 17 November 1961, the Secretariat of State of the Holy See notified the Secretary-General, pursuant to Section B.(2) of Article 1 of the Convention, that the Holy See has extended its obligations under this Convention by adopting alternative (b) of Section B (1) of that article, that is to say, "events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951".

Reservation

"The Holy See, in conformity with the terms of Article 42, paragraph 1, of the Convention, makes the reservation that the application of the Convention must be compatible in practice with the special nature of the Vatican City State and without prejudice to the norms governing access to and sojourn therein."

ICELAND

Declaration

In accordance with Article 1, Section B.(1) of the Convention, the Government of Iceland declared that, for the purpose of its obligations under the Convention, the words "events occurring before 1 January 1951" should be understood as referring to events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951.

IRELAND

Declaration

"The Government of Ireland understands the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in Article 1, Section A, to mean 'events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951'.

The Government of Ireland understands the words 'public order' in Article 32 (1) and the words 'in accordance with due process of law' in Article 32 (2) to mean respectively 'public policy' and 'in accordance with the procedure provided by law'.

Reservations

With regard to Article 17 the Government of Ireland do not undertake to grant to refugees rights of wage-earning employment more favourable than those granted to aliens generally.

The Government of Ireland undertake to give effect to Article 25 only in so far as may be practicable and permissible under the laws of Ireland.

With regard to Article 29 (1), the Government of Ireland do not undertake to accord to refugees treatment more favourable than that accorded to aliens generally with respect to

a) the Stamp Duty chargeable in Ireland in connexion with conveyances, transfers and leases of lands, tenements and hereditaments,

b) the rebate of duty granted in Ireland on leaf tobacco used in tobacco factories controlled by resident Irish nationals, and

c) Income Tax (including Sur-tax)."

ISRAEL

Declaration

"The term 'events occurring before 1 January 1951', as used in Article 1, Section A, shall be understood without any geographical limitation."

Reservations

"Articles 8 and 12 shall not apply to Israel.

Article 28 shall apply to Israel with the limitations which result from section 6 of the Passport Law of 5712-1952, according to which the Minister may, at his discretion:

a) Refuse to grant, or to extend the validity of a passport or laissez-passer;

b) Attach conditions to the grant or the extension of the validity of a passport or laissez-passer;

c) Cancel, or shorten the period of validity of a passport or laissez-passer issued, and order the surrender thereof;

d) Limit, either at or after the issue of a passport or laissez-passer, the range of countries for which it is to be valid.

Permits provided for by Article 30 shall be issued by the Minister of Finance at his discretion."

ITALY

Declaration

"For the purpose of the obligations assumed by the Republic of Italy under this Convention, the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in article 1, Section A (2), shall be understood as referring to events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951."

Reservation

"In signing this Convention, the Government of the Republic of Italy declares that the provisions of articles 6, 7(2), 8, 17, 18, 19, 22(2), 23, 25 and 34 are recognized by it as recommendations only."

IVORY COAST

Declaration

By a communication received on 8 December 1961, the Government of the Ivory Coast notified the Secretary-General that it considers itself bound by the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, done at Geneva on 28 July 1951, the application of which had been extended to its territory before the attainment of independence.

LIECHTENSTEIN

Declaration

"In accordance with paragraph 1 of Section B of article 1, we declare that for the purpose of our obligations under this Convention, the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in article 1, Section A(2) shall be understood to mean 'events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951'."

Reservations

"Ad article 17: With respect to the right to engage in wage-earning employment, refugees are treated in law on the same footing as aliens in general, on the understanding, however, that the competent authorities shall make every effort in so far as possible, to apply to them the provisions of this article.

Ad article 24, paragraph 1 (a) and (b), and paragraph 3: Provisions relating to aliens in general on training, apprenticeship, unemployment insurance, old-age and survivors insurance shall be applicable to refugees. Nevertheless, in the case of old-age and survivors insurance, refugees residing in Liechtenstein (including their survivors if the latter are considered as refugees) are already entitled to normal old-age or survivors' benefits after paying their contributions for at least one full year, provided that they have resided in Liechtenstein for ten years - of which five years without interruption have immediately preceded the occurrence of the event insured against. Moreover, the one-third reduction in benefits provided in the case of aliens and stateless persons under article 74 of the Act on Old-Age and Survivors Insurance, is not applicable to refugees. Refugees residing in Liechtenstein who, on the occurrence of the event insured against, are not entitled to old-age or survivors' benefits, are paid not only their own contributions but any contributions which may have been made by the employers.

LUXEMBOURG

Declaration

"The Grand Ducal Government understands the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in article 1, Section A of the Convention, to mean 'events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951' in accordance with alternative (a) in Section B of the same article."

Reservation

"In all cases where this Convention grants to refugees the most favourable treatment accorded to nationals of a foreign country, this provision shall not be interpreted as necessarily involving the régime accorded to nationals of countries with which the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg has concluded regional, customs, economic or political agreements."

MONACO

Declaration

"In accordance with the terms of article 1, Section B, paragraph 1, the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' shall be understood to mean 'events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951'."

Reservations

Subject to the reservation that the stipulations contained in articles 7 (para. 2), 15, 22 (para. 1), 23 and 24 shall be provisionally considered as being recommendations and not legal obligations.

MOROCCO

On 7 November 1956, the Government of Morocco, referring to the Diplomatic Agreement of 20 May 1956 between France and Morocco, deposited with the Secretary-General a declaration to the effect that Morocco assumes the obligations resulting from the ratification by France in the name of Morocco of the Convention, to which Morocco considers itself a party.

Declaration

On 18 March 1957, the Government of Morocco made the following declaration to the Secretary-General:

> In accordance with Section B (1) of article 1 of the Convention, for the purpose of the obligations of Morocco under this Convention, the words "events occurring before 1 January 1951" in article 1, Section A (2), shall be understood to mean "events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951".

NETHERLANDS

Declarations and Reservations

Upon signature, the Government of the Netherlands made the reservation that in all cases where the Convention grants to refugees the most favourable treatment accorded to nationals of a foreign country, this provision shall not be interpreted as involving the régime accorded to nationals of the countries with which the Netherlands has concluded regional, customs, economic or political agreements.

At the time of ratification the above reservation was confirmed and the Government of the Netherlands also made the following Declaration:

> "For the purpose of its obligations thereunder, the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in article 1, Section A, shall be understood as referring to events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951"
>
> (1) With reference to article 26 of this Convention the Netherlands Government reserves the right to designate a place of principal residence for certain refugees or groups of refugees in the public interest;
>
> (2) In the notifications concerning overseas territories referred to in article 40, paragraph 2, of this Convention the Netherlands Government reserves the right to make a declaration in accordance with Section B of article 1 with respect to such territories and to make reservations in accordance with article 42 of the Convention.

"In depositing the instrument of ratification by the Netherlands, ... I declare on behalf of the Netherlands Government that it does not regard the Amboinese who were transported to the Netherlands after 27 December 1949, the date of the transfer of sovereignty by the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Republic of the United States of Indonesia, as eligible for the status of refugees as defined in article 1 of the said Convention."

NEW ZEALAND

Declaration

The Government of New Zealand declared, in accordance with Section B.(1) of Article 1 of the Convention, that for the purpose of its obligations under the Convention the words "events occurring before 1 January 1951" in Section A of Article 1 shall be understood to mean "events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951".

Reservation

"The Government of New Zealand can only undertake to give effect to the provisions contained in paragraph 2 of Article 24 of the Convention so far as the law of New Zealand allows."

NIGER

Declaration

By a communication received on 25 August 1961, the Government of Niger notified the Secretary-General that it considers itself bound by the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, done at Geneva on 28 July 1951, the application of which had been extended to its territory before the attainment of independence.

NORWAY

Declaration

"In accordance with Article 1, Section B.(1), the Government of Norway declares that for the purpose of its obligations under this Convention, the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in Article 1, Section A.(2), shall be understood to mean 'events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951'."

Reservations

Article 17

"The obligation stipulated in Article 17 (1) to accord to refugees lawfully staying in the country the most favourable treatment accorded to nationals of a foreign country in the same circumstances as regards the right to engage in wage-earning employment, shall not be construed as extending to refugees the benefits of agreements which may in the future be concluded between Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden, or between Norway and any one of these countries, for the purpose of establishing special conditions for the transfer of labour between these countries."

Article 24

"The obligation stipulated in Article 24 (1) (b) to accord to refugees lawfully staying in the country the same treatment as is accorded to nationals in respect of social security, shall not apply as regards benefits payable under the Act of 16 July 1936, relating to the disabled and the blind or the Act relating to family allowances of 24 October 1946, nor as regards the benefits payable under the Act of 24 June 1931 relating to employment injury insurance for seamen.

A reservation is also made with respect to the provisions contained in Article 24 (3) in so far as payment of benefits under the three above-mentioned Acts is concerned."

[On 21 January 1954, the Secretary-General of the United Nations was notified that:

"The Government of Norway withdraws, with immediate effect, the reservation made by it to Article 24 of the Convention, as the Acts mentioned in said reservation have been amended to accord to refugees lawfully staying in the country the same treatment as is accorded to Norwegian nationals."]

PORTUGAL

Declaration

At the time of accession the representative of Portugal declared:

"in accordance with the terms of article 1, Section B.(1) of the Convention, that for the purpose of its obligation under the Convention the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in article 1, Section A shall be understood to mean 'events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951'."

Reservations

The representative of Portugal further declared:

"this accession is made under the following reservations:

(1) Due to the special nature of the relationship between Portugal and Brazil, the treatment conferred to Brazilian citizens shall in no case be considered for the purpose of interpretation of any clause stipulating the granting to refugees of the most favoured treatment accorded to nationals of foreign countries.

(2) The Portuguese Government safeguards the principles of a constitutional nature covering the same matters as the provisions of this Convention related to the exemption of reciprocity.

SENEGAL

Declaration

By a communication received on 2 May 1963, the Government of Senegal notified the Secretary-General that it considers itself bound by the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, done at Geneva on 28 July 1951, the application of which had been extended to its territory before the attainment of independence.

SWEDEN

Declaration

"The expression 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in article 1, Section A, will be understood to mean, so far as Sweden is concerned, events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951."

Reservation

"First, a general reservation to the effect that the application of those provisions of the Convention which grant to refugees the most favourable treatment accorded to nationals of a foreign country shall not be affected by the fact that special rights and privileges are now or may in future be accorded by Sweden to the nationals of Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Norway or to the nationals of any one of those countries.

Secondly, the following reservations:

A reservation to article 7, paragraph 2, to the effect that Sweden is not prepared, as a general measure, to grant refugees who fulfil the condition of three years' residence in Sweden an exemption from any legislative reciprocity which Swedish law may have stipulated as a condition governing an alien's eligibility for some right or privilege.

A reservation to article 8 to the effect that that article shall not be binding on Sweden.

A reservation to article 12, paragraph 1, to the effect that the Convention shall not modify the rule of Swedish private international law, as now in force, under which the personal status of a refugee is governed by the law of his country of nationality.

A reservation to article 14 to the effect that the protection afforded by that article shall apply only to industrial property.

A reservation to article 17, paragraph 2, to the effect that Sweden does not consider itself bound to grant a refugee who fulfils any one of the conditions set out in sub-paragraphs (a) - (c) an automatic exemption from the obligation to obtain a work permit.

A reservation to article 24, paragraph 1 (b), to the effect that Sweden shall not be bound under the principle of national treatment for refugees to accord to refugees the same treatment as is accorded to nationals in respect of the compulsory conversion into a lump-sum capital payment of the daily sickness allowance or the annuity to which

a non-resident alien in Sweden is entitled by virtue of an employment injury or an occupational disease; nor in respect of an allowance for funeral expenses of a non-resident alien in Sweden; nor in respect of the possibility of obtaining insurance benefits under the provisions in force in Sweden making special accident insurance available to fishermen, or of the possibility of becoming a member of a State approved unemployment fund; and likewise to the effect that Sweden makes eligibility for the benefits of general sickness insurance conditional upon inclusion in the annual census lists.

A reservation to article 24, paragraphs 2 and 3, to the effect that the provisions of those paragraphs shall not be binding on Sweden.

A reservation to article 25, to the effect that Sweden does not consider itself bound to cause a certificiate to be delivered by a Swedish authority, in the place of the authorities of a foreign country, if the documentary records necessary for the delivery of such a certificate do not exist in Sweden."

By a communication received on 20 April 1961, the Government of Sweden gave notice of the withdrawal, as from 1 July 1961, of the reservation made by it to article 14 of the Convention.

SWITZERLAND

Declaration

"In accordance with paragraph 1 of Section B of article 1, the Swiss Federal Council declares that for the purpose of its obligations under this Convention, the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in article 1, Section A (2) shall be understood to mean 'events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951'."

Reservations

Ad Article 17

"With respect to the right to engage in wage-earning employment, refugees are treated in law on the same footing as aliens in general, on the understanding, however, that the competent authorities shall make every effort in so far as possible, to apply to them the provisions of this article.

Ad Article 24, paragraph 1(a) and (b), and paragraph 3

Provisions relating to aliens in general on training, apprenticeship, unemployment insurance, old-age and survivors insurance shall be applicable to refugees. Nevertheless, in the case of old-age and survivors insurance, refugees residing in Switzerland (including their survivors if the latter are considered as refugees) are already entitled to normal old-age or survivors' benefits after paying their contributions for at least one full year, provided that they have resided in

Switzerland for ten years - of which five years without interruption have immediately preceded the occurrence of the event insured against. Moreover, the one-third reduction in benefits provided in the case of aliens and stateless persons under article 40 of the Federal Act on Old-Age and Survivors Insurance, is not applicable to refugees. Refugees residing in Switzerland who, on the occurrence of the event insured against, are not entitled to old-age or survivors' benefits, are paid not only their own contributions under the Federal Council's Order of 14 March 1952, but any contributions which may have been made by the employers.

By a communication received on 18 February 1963, the Permanent Observer of Switzerland to the United Nations informed the Secretary-General that in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 42 of the Convention, the Government of Switzerland had decided to withdraw, in so far as old-age and survivors insurance was concerned, the reservation formulated at the time of ratification with regard to article 24, paragraph 1, letters (a) and (b) and paragraph 3 of the Convention.

TOGO

Declaration

By a communication received on 27 February 1962, the Government of Togo notified the Secretary-General that it considers itself bound by the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, done at Geneva on 28 July 1951, the application of which had been extended to its territory before the attainment of independence.

By a further communication received on 23 October 1962, the Government of Togo notified the Secretary-General that pursuant to Section B (2) of article 1 of the Convention, it has extended its obligations under this Convention by adopting alternative (b) of Section B (1) of that article, that is to say, "events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951".

TUNISIA

By a communication received or 24 October 1957, the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, on the instruction of his Government, informed the Secretary-General that Tunisia considered itself bound by the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees which had been ratified by France in the name of Tunisia on 23 June 1954.

Declaration

By a communication received on 16 January 1958, the Government of Tunisia notified the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Section B of article 1, that for the purpose of its obligations under this Convention the words "events occurring before 1 January 1951" in article 1, Section A (2) shall be understood to mean "events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951".

TURKEY

Declarations made upon signature

"The Government of the Turkish Republic, in signing this Convention states that so far as the commitments accepted by it under the Convention are concerned, the term 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' in article 1, Section A, shall be understood to refer to events occurring in Europe before 1 January. It does not therefore intend to accept any commitment in connexion with events occurring outside of Europe.

The Turkish Government considers moreover, that the term 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' refers to the beginning of the events. Consequently, since the pressure exerted upon the Turkish minority in Bulgaria, which began before 1 January 1951, is still continuing, the provision of this Convention must also apply to the Bulgarian refugees of Turkish extraction compelled to leave that country as a result of this pressure and who, being unable to enter Turkey, might seek refuge on the territory of another contracting party after 1 January 1951.

The Turkish Government will, at the time of ratification, enter reservations which it could make under article 42 of the Convention."

Reservation and Declaration made upon ratification

"No provision of this Convention may be interpreted as granting to refugees greater rights than those accorded to Turkish citizens in Turkey;

(A) The Government of the Republic of Turkey is not a party to the Arrangements of 12 May 1926 and of 30 June 1928 mentioned in article 1, paragraph A, of this Convention. Furthermore, the 150 persons affected by the Arrangement of 30 June 1928 having been amnestied under Act No. 3527, the provisions laid down in this Arrangement are no longer valid in the case of Turkey. Consequently, the Government of the Republic of Turkey considers the Convention of 28 July 1951 independently of the aforementioned Arrangements.

(B) For the purposes of the obligations arising out of this Convention, the Government of the Republic understands the words 'events occurring before 1 January 1951' mentioned in paragraph B of article 1 to mean 'events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951'.

(C) Similarly, the Government of the Republic understands that the action of 're-availment' or 'reacquisition' as referred to in article 1, paragraph C, of the Convention - that is to say: 'If (1) He has voluntarily re-availed himself of the protection of the country of his nationality; or (2) Having lost his nationality, he has voluntarily reacquired it' - does not depend only on the request of the person concerned but also on the consent of the State in question."

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Declaration

In signing the Convention, the Representative of the United Kingdom declared that for the purpose of its obligations thereunder the words "events occurring before 1 January 1951" in article 1, Section A, shall be understood as referring to events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951.

Reservations

When ratifying the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees signed at Geneva on 28 July 1951, and in accordance with Article 42, paragraph 1, thereof, the Government of the United Kingdom have deemed it necessary to make certain reservations thereto, the text of which is reproduced below:

"(i) The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland understand Articles 8 and 9 as not preventing them from taking in time of war or other grave and exceptional circumstances measures in the interests of national security in the case of a refugee on the ground of his nationality. The provisions of Article 8 shall not prevent the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from exercising any rights over property or interests which they may acquire or have acquired as an Allied or Associated Power under a Treaty of Peace or other agreement or arrangement for the restoration of peace which has been or may be completed as a result of the Second World War. Furthermore, the provisions of Article 8 shall not affect the treatment to be accorded to any property or interests which at the date of entry into force of this Convention for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland are under the control of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland by reason of a state of war which exists or existed between them and any other State.

(ii) The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland accept paragraph 2 of Article 17 with the substitution of 'four years' for 'three years' in sub-paragraph (a) and with the omission of sub-paragraph (c).

(iii) The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in respect of such of the matters referred to in sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 1 of Article 24 as fall within the scope of the National Health Service, can only undertake to apply the provisions of that paragraph so far as the law allows; and it can only undertake to apply the provisions of paragraph 2 of that Article so far as the law allows.

(iv) The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland cannot undertake to give effect to the obligations contained in paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 25 and can only undertake to apply the provisions of paragraph 3 so far as the law allows."

At the time of ratifying the Convention, the British Representative made a declaration in accordance with the terms of Article 40, paragraph 1, of the Convention concerning its extension to the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, with reservations similar to those applicable to the United Kingdom.

On 25 October 1956 the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations informed the Secretary-General that, following consultations with the governments of other territories, for the conduct of whose international relations the Government of the United Kingdom are responsible, the Convention was further extended to the territories of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate, Cyprus, Dominica, Falkland Islands, Fiji, Gambia, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Grenada, Jamaica, Kenya, Mauritius, St. Vincent, Seychelles and the Somaliland Protectorate. Reservations similar to those applicable in the United Kingdom apply to all these territories.

On 25 October 1956 the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations further informed the Secretary-General of extension of the Convention to the territories of Zanzibar and St. Helena, with the reservations similar to (i), (iii) and (iv) listed above only.

On 19 June 1957 application of the Convention was extended to British Honduras, subject to the reservation contained in paragraph (i) above only.

On 11 July 1960 application of the Convention was extended to the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, subject to similar reservations to those made in respect of the United Kingdom.

On 11 November 1960 application of the Convention was further extended to the territories of Basutoland, Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland, subject to reservations similar to those contained in paragraphs (i), (ii) and (iv) of the reservations made in respect of the United Kingdom.

YUGOSLAVIA

Declaration

The Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia has notified the Secretary-General in accordance with Section B (1) of Article 1 of the Convention that for the purpose of its obligations under this Convention the words "events occurring before 1 January 1951" in Article 1, Section A shall be understood to mean "events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951".